Corruption in rural employment programmes

1070. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are complaints of wide-spread corruption in Rural Employment Schemes like Employment Assurance Scheme, National Rural Employment Programme or the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana;

(b) the States where the incidence of corruption is very high;

(c) whether there are monitoring organizations which perform periodic inspections or appraisals to ensure that corruption is eliminated; and

(d) whether any guidelines are existing from the Government of India in this regard, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) The Schemes, namely Employment Assurance Scheme, National Rural Employment Programme and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana are no longer in existence. As such complaints of corruption in these programmes do not arise.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has developed a comprehensive system of Monitoring the implementation and impact of the programmes including utilization of funds through Periodical Progress Reports, Performance of Review Committee, Area Officer's Scheme, Vigilance and Monitoring Committee and the State/District Level with greater involvement of members of Parliament, National Level Monitors to Monitor quality of work, adherence to implementation of schemes as per programme guidelines. Besides, the State have been advised to adopt a four-pronged strategy consisting of (i) creation of awareness about the schemes, (ii) transparency (iii) People's Partnership and (iv) accountability-social audit through Gram Sabha. In addition, to this, constitution of Village Level Monitoring Committee for each work under SGRY and NFFWP is mandatory which will monitor the progress and quality while work is in progress and final report of the Committee would be attached alongwith the completion certificate of work for consideration of Gram Sabha of Gram Panchayat where work has been executed.